

Command Sergeant Major  
John R. Calpena

Command Sergeant Major John R. Calpena is a native of Long Island, New York. He entered the United States Army in July 1982, with his first assignment in the 1st Battalion (Ranger) 75th Infantry. Command Sergeant Major Calpena has served in numerous positions to include: Rifle Platoon Sergeant with Company A, 2/75th Ranger Regiment; Company First Sergeant, Battalion Intelligence Sergeant and Operations Sergeant, 2/75th Ranger Regiment; Company First Sergeant with Company C, 3/75th Ranger Regiment; Battalion Command Sergeant Major with 1/18th Infantry; Command Sergeant Major of 2d Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division where he deployed in Support of OIF II; Division Command Sergeant Major of 3d Infantry Division and Fort Stewart/Hunter Army Airfield; Command Sergeant Major of 198th Infantry Training Brigade and Command Sergeant Major, Multi-National Security Transition Command-Iraq. Command Sergeant Major Calpena's assignments also include: Drill Sergeant at Fort Benning, Georgia; Ranger Instructor at the 4th Ranger Training Battalion at Fort Benning, Georgia; and Sergeant Major and Senior Military Science Instructor of Seattle University and Pacific Lutheran University (Chieftain Battalion), 4th Region ROTC. He served as the Task Force Integrator O/C for the Warhog Team, at CMTC, Hohenfels, Germany. He is currently serving as the Command Sergeant Major, Initial Military Training Center of Excellence.

Command Sergeant Major Calpena's military education includes Airborne School; Jumpmaster School; all levels of NCOES; Drill Sergeant's School; First Sergeant's Course; Battle Staff NCO Course, Instructor's Training Course, Military Free Fall, Ranger School, Pathfinder School, Jungle Warfare Course, Demolition Training Course, Heavy Equipment Operator's Course, Combat Life Saver Course, Equal Opportunity Course, Combined Service Support Program, the Advanced Land Navigation Course, West Virginia, and the United States Army Sergeant's Major Academy Class 50.

Command Sergeant Major Calpena is a graduate of the National Defense University Keystone Course and has completed 4 years of college toward a Bachelors Degree in History.

His awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal(1st Oak Leaf Cluster), Meritorious Service Medal (3rd Oak Leaf Cluster); the Army Commendation Medal (4th Oak Leaf Cluster); the Army Achievement Medal (1st Oak Leaf Cluster); the Good Conduct Medal (8th Award); the National Defense Service Medal (with Bronze Star); the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal; the Kosovo Campaign Medal; the Iraq Campaign Medal; the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal; the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal; the Humanitarian Service Medal; the NCO Professional Development Ribbon (with numeral 4); the Army Service Ribbon; the Overseas Service Ribbon (with numeral 3); NATO Medal; the Joint Meritorious Unit Award (1st Oak Leaf Cluster); the Valorous Unit Award; Ranger Tab; Combat Infantryman's Badge, Expert Infantryman's Badge; Master Parachutists Badge; Military Freefall and Pathfinder Badges; Drill Sergeant's Identification Badge; the French, Canadian, and German Jump Wings.

Command Sergeant Major Calpena is married to the former Bertha E. Carrillo. They have one son, John Daniel (J.D.) and daughter, Ava Marie.